

# Yale WGSS & LGBTS

FALL & SPRING COURSES 2019 –20

[wgss.yale.edu](http://wgss.yale.edu) | [lgbts.yale.edu](http://lgbts.yale.edu)

location: WLH, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Phone: 203.432.0845

## **REQUIREMENTS OF THE WGSS MAJOR**

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies requires twelve term courses and may be taken either as a primary major or as one of two majors. Requirements include two intermediate courses selected from WGSS 205, 206, 207, or 340. Majors are strongly encouraged to take these intermediate courses during their first two years. The major also requires two methodology courses, five courses in an area of concentration, the junior research seminar (WGSS 398), and a two-course senior requirement. The area of concentration consists of at least five courses, the majority of which should be drawn from program offerings. Substitutions to the major requirements may be made only with the written permission of the DUS.

### **Methodology courses**

Given its interdisciplinary nature, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies necessarily relies on a wide range of methodologies: literary criticism, ethnography, visual analysis, historiography, and quantitative data analysis, among others. Each student is expected to acquire competence in at least two methodologies relevant to their own concentration and planned senior essay. Students are advised to take the first of these courses during their first two years and to complete the two-course methods requirement in the junior year, in preparation for the senior essay.

### **Junior research seminar**

All students in the major must take WGSS 398, Junior Research Seminar, which provides majors opportunity to examine, synthesize and apply the interdisciplinary theory and methods to which they have been exposed while completing the intermediate course sequence and methodology requirement. (Individualized alternatives are found for students who study abroad during the junior year.)

### **Senior Requirement**

***The yearlong senior essay*** The two-term senior sequence consists of WGSS 490, Senior Colloquium, in which students begin researching and writing a senior essay, followed by WGSS 491, Senior Essay, in which students complete the essay. The senior essay is developed and written under the guidance and supervision of a WGSS-affiliated faculty member with expertise in the area of concentration. Students are expected to meet with their essay advisers on a regular basis.

***The single-term senior essay*** Majors may opt to complete the senior essay requirement in an approved upper-level WGSS seminar in the fall or spring term, with the approval of the instructor, by writing a senior essay of twenty-five to forty-five pages in lieu of the course's normal writing requirements. Students who choose the single-term senior essay take one additional WGSS course of their choosing to fulfill the twelve-term-course requirement.

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Undergraduate Courses \*\*\*\*\*

***Music, Gender, (Dis)ability***

WGSS 010 / MUSI 079, Jessica Peritz

TTh 11:35am-12:50pm STOECK 211 Fall 2019

This seminar investigates how socio-cultural constructions of difference are, and have been, negotiated in music. Since Aristotle’s *On the Generation of Animals*, if not earlier, (dis)ability and the non-cis-male body have been tightly intertwined in Western thought; with the myth of Orpheus, these modes of difference became foundational to narratives of music’s origins. By tracing intersections between representations of music, gender/sex, and (dis)ability, this course offers an introduction to cultural and social approaches to Western music history. Topics include the songs of Sappho, the figure of the castrato, and trans\* voices. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.

***Neoliberalism and Sexuality***

WGSS 030, Evren Savci

TTh 1pm-2:15pm WLH 001 Fall 2019

Sexuality is often imagined as a private and intimate affair, experienced individually, marked by personal histories and preferences. This course argues otherwise. Specifically, we consider the intersections between the current dominant political economic mode, referred to as neoliberal capitalism, and sexuality as a field of power. We analyze how subjectivities are formed under this current system, how desires are produced and discourses incited, and how the particular moralization of economic behavior has implications for a range of issues including reproductive justice, definitions of kinship, sexual liberation movements, and contemporary states of war and emergency. Thinking of sexuality as a field of power that is predicated on notions of normality and abnormality enables us to see what other “undesirable” subjects are produced under conditions of neoliberal capitalist modernity with whom sexual others are always in kinship. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.

***History of Sexuality***

WGSS 032, Maria Trumpler

TTh 2:30pm-3:45pm (Room TBA) Spring 2020

Exploration of scientific and medical writings on sexuality over the past century. Focus on the tension between nature and culture in shaping theories, the construction of heterosexuality and homosexuality, the role of scientific studies in moral discourse, and the rise of sexology as a scientific discipline. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.

### ***Fashion in London and Paris, 1750 to the Present***

WGSS 033 / HIST 033, Becky Conekin

TTh 1pm-2:15pm WTS A32 Fall 2019

Introduction to the history of Western fashion from the mid-eighteenth century to the present, with a focus on Paris and London. Approaches, methods, and theories scholars have historically employed to study fashion and dress.

Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.

### ***We Interrupt this Program: The Multidimensional Histories of Queer and Trans Politics***

WGSS 125, Roderick Ferguson

TTh 11:35am-12:50pm YK212 004 Fall 2019

In 1991, the arts organizations Visual AIDS and The Kitchen collaborated with video artist and filmmaker Charles Atlas to produce the live television broadcast "We Interrupt this Program." Part educational presentation, part performance piece, the show was aired in millions of homes across the nation. The program, in The Kitchen's words, "sought to feature voices that had often been marginalized within many discussions of AIDS, in particular people of color and women." This course builds upon and is inspired by this aspect of Atlas's visionary presentation, an aspect that used the show to produce a critically multicultural platform that could activate cultural histories and critical traditions from various communities. In effect, the course uses this aspect as a metonym for the racial, gender, sexual, and class heterogeneity of queer art and organizing. It conducts its investigation by looking at a variety of primary materials that illustrate the heterogeneous makeup of queer and trans politics. The course also draws on more recent texts and visual works that arose from the earlier contexts that the primary texts helped to illuminate and shape. The course uses a lecture format that integrates discussion during class time.

### ***Vampires, Castles, and Werewolves***

WGSS 163 / ENGL 163, Heather Klemann

TTh 11:35am-12:25pm (Room TBA) Spring 2020

Study of modernist literature and the historical formation of homosexual identity from the late nineteenth through mid-twentieth centuries. Topics include: sexology as a medical and disciplinary practice; decadence and theories of degeneration; the criminalization of homosexuality in the Wilde and Pemberton-Billing trials; cross-dressing and drag balls in Harlem; transsexuality and sex-reassignment surgery; lesbian periodical cultures; nightlife and cruising; gay Berlin and the rise of fascism; colonial narratives of same-sex desire in Arabia and the South Pacific; Caribbean sexual morality; and the salon cultures of expatriate Paris.

### ***Queer Modernisms***

WGSS 194 / ENGL 194, Jill Richards

TTh 10:30am-11:20am LC 211 Fall 2019

Study of modernist literature and the historical formation of homosexual identity from the late nineteenth through mid-twentieth centuries. Topics include: sexology as a medical and disciplinary practice; decadence and theories of degeneration; the criminalization of homosexuality in the Wilde and Pemberton-Billing trials; cross-dressing and drag balls in Harlem; transsexuality and sex-reassignment surgery; lesbian periodical cultures; nightlife and cruising; gay Berlin and the rise of fascism; colonial narratives of same-sex desire in Arabia and the South Pacific; Caribbean sexual morality; and the salon cultures of expatriate Paris.

### ***Bodies and Pleasures, Sex and Genders***

WGSS 205, Joseph Fischel

T 3:30pm-5:20pm WLH 209 Fall 2019

This seminar engages cultural analyses of embodiment, its pleasures—and by extension its pains—to interrogate sex, sexuality, and gender as analytical categories. Its aim is to critically evaluate formative concepts and theories that have been subject to debates within gender studies, psychoanalysis, philosophy, anthropology, critical race studies, and history. Readings by Freud, Foucault, Berlant, Butler, Rubin, and others help explain how terms like “women” and “men,” “femininity” and “masculinity,” as well as “homosexuality” and “heterosexuality,” “gender” and “transgender” have structured people’s experiences and their perceptions of their bodies. The potential our bodies have for “hanging on to ourselves” occupies a central position within scholarly canons, revealing also how these canons are always already imbricated in racialized hierarchies.

### ***Transnational Approaches to Gender & Sexuality***

WGSS 206, Evren Savci

T 1:30pm-3:20pm (Room TBA) Spring 2020

Examination of transnational debates about gender and sexuality as they unfold in specific contexts. Gender as a category that can or cannot travel; feminist critiques of liberal rights paradigms; globalization of particular models of gender/queer advocacy; the role of NGOs in global debates about gender and sexuality.

### ***Gender, Justice, Power, Institutions***

WGSS 207, Joseph Fischel

TTh 11:35am-12:50pm (Room TBA) Spring 2020

Examination of how inequalities based on gender, race, caste, class, sexuality as well as a host of other identities are embedded in institutions that make up our social world. From the family and the home to the workplace, from the University, and the Corporation, to the Military and Media, we track how inequalities emerge and are sustained by power and institutional structures. We also see how they are challenged and what sorts of instruments are needed to challenge them. In particular, we focus on sexual politics and sexual violence as a key issue to

understanding the gendered workings of institutions, in order to examine structures that sustain inequality. Through the semester, we hope to consider many domains of life—bedrooms and boardrooms, international borders and feminist movements—to understand the stubborn and sticky forms and hierarchies of power that are challenged and contested by activists, scholars, and communities.

### ***Dionysus in Modernity***

WGSS 209 / MGRK 216, George Syrimis

F 1:30pm-3:20pm RKZ 08 Fall 2019

Modernity's fascination with the myth of Dionysus. Questions of agency, identity and community, and psychological integrity and the modern constitution of the self. Manifestations of Dionysus in literature, anthropology, and music; the Apollonian-Dionysiac dichotomy; twentieth-century variations of these themes in psychoanalysis, surrealism, and magical realism.

### ***Sex and Gender in the Black Diaspora***

WGSS 219 / AFAM 231, Riche Barnes

TTh 1pm-2:15pm WLH 209 Fall 2019

A critical survey of images, rhetorics, experiences, and practices of gender and sexuality formation of black subjects in Africa, the Caribbean, western Europe, and the United States. Construction of class, nationality, race, color, sexuality, and gender.

### ***Gender Politics***

WGSS 220 / PLSC 220, Andrea Aldrich

T 9:25am-11:15am RKZ 02 Fall 2019

Exploration of theoretical and empirical work in political science to study the relationship between gender and politics in the United States and around the world. Topics include women's representative in legislative and executive branch politics in democratic regimes; the impact of gender stereotypes on elections and public opinion; conditions that impact the supply and demand of candidates across genders; and the underrepresentation of women in political institutions.

### ***Introduction to Critical Refugee Studies***

WGSS 222 / ER&M 221, Quan Tran

W 9:25am-11:15am BRW35 221 Spring 2020

Reconfiguring refugees as fluid subjects and sites of social, political, and cultural critiques. Departing from dominant understandings of refugees as victims, consideration instead of refugees as complex historical actors, made visible through processes of colonization, imperialism, war, displacement, state violence, and globalization, as well as ethical, social, legal, and political transformations. Focus on second-half of the twentieth century.

### ***Family in Greek Literature and Film***

WGSS 245 / MGRK 218, George Syrimis

TTh 1:30pm-3:20pm WTS B35 Fall 2019

The structure and multiple appropriations of the family unit, with a focus on the Greek tradition. The influence of aesthetic forms, including folk literature, short stories, novels, and film, and of political ideologies such as nationalism, Marxism, and totalitarianism. Issues related to gender, sibling rivalry, dowries and other economic factors, political allegories, feminism, and sexual and social violence both within and beyond the family.

### ***Experiments in the Novel: The Eighteenth Century***

WGSS 251 / ENGL 251, Jill Campbell

TTh 1pm-2:15pm LC 206 Fall 2019

The course provides an introduction to English-language novels of the long eighteenth century (1688-1818), the period in which the novel has traditionally been understood to have "risen." Emphasizing the experimental nature of novel-writing in this early period of its history, the course foregrounds persistent questions about the genre as well as a literary-historical survey: What is the status of fictional characters? How does narrative sequence impart political or moral implications? How do conventions of the novel form shape our experience of gender? What kind of being is a narrator? Likely authors include Aphra Behn, Daniel Defoe, Samuel Richardson, Henry Fielding, Laurence Sterne, Maria Edgeworth, Jane Austen, Jennifer Egan, Colson Whitehead, and Richard Powers.

### ***Food, Identity and Desire***

WGSS 260, Maria Trumpler

Th 9:25am-11:15am PR135 A83 Fall 2019

Exploration of how food—ingredients, cooking practices, and appetites—can intersect with gender, ethnicity, class, and national origin to produce profound experiences of identity and desire. Sources include memoir, cookbooks, movies, and fiction.

### ***Sickness and Health in African American History***

WGSS 270 / AFAM 170, Carolyn Roberts

TTh 1:30pm-2:20pm LC 211 Fall 2019

A history of American medicine through the African American experience covering the period of slavery through #BlackLivesMatter. Oriented around the complex dynamics of medical abuse and medical resistance, key themes include medicine and slavery; gender and reproduction; medical experimentation and ethics; the rise of racial science; lynching and vigilante violence; segregation and public health; African-descended approaches to health and healing; the rise of the African American medical profession; and black health activism from slavery to #BlackLivesMatter.

### ***Renaissance Bodies: Art, Magic, Science***

WGSS 282 / HSAR 282, Marisa Bass

MW 10:30am-11:20am LORIA 351 Spring 2020

An introduction to issues surrounding the representation of the body in both art and science, spanning from the late Middle Ages to the seventeenth century, and with a particular focus on the Northern Renaissance. Topics include medicine, reproduction, witchcraft, the gender spectrum, torture, race, disability, desire, dreams, and theories of imagination and invention. Sections and assignments will make ample use of the Yale collections. Previous experience with art history welcome but not required.

### ***The Olympic Games, Ancient and Modern***

WGSS 293 / MGRK 300, George Syrimis

W 9:25am-11:15am (Room TBA) Spring 2020

Introduction to the history of the Olympic Games from antiquity to the present. The mythology of athletic events in ancient Greece and the ritual, political, and social ramifications of the actual competitions. The revival of the modern Olympic movement in 1896, the political investment of the Greek state at the time, and specific games as they illustrate the convergence of athletic cultures and sociopolitical transformations in the twentieth century.

### ***Black Feminist Theory***

WGSS 305, Roderick Ferguson

M 3:30pm-5:20pm WLH 205 Fall 2019

This course is designed to introduce you to some of the major themes in black feminist theory. The course does so by presenting classic texts with more recent ones to give you a sense of the vibrancy of black feminist theory for addressing past and present concerns. Rather than interpret black feminist theory as a critical formation that simply puts race, gender, sexuality, and class into conversation with one another, the course apprehends that formation as one that produced epistemic shifts in how we understand politics, empire, history, the law, and literature. This is by no means an exhaustive list of the areas into which black feminism intervened. It is merely a sample of some of the most vibrant ideological and discursive contexts in which black feminism caused certain epistemic transformations.

### ***Sexy, Saintly, and Subdued: Women in Global Medieval Literature***

WGSS 316 / RLST 317, Caroline Gruenbaum

T 9:25am-11:15am LC 209 Fall 2019

This course explores medieval texts by women and about women in the "global" Middle Ages, tracing commonalities and differences through selections from Europe, the Middle East, and East Asia. The course is divided into two categories: "Saints and Warriors" and "Lovers, Mothers and Wives," which are dominant themes in the selected texts despite their religious, lingual and cultural differences. The first part of the course examines the depictions of women (by themselves or others) as saintly, pious figures. Several of these women are martyred for their



beliefs or commit violent acts in the name of their faith. The second section confronts women presented as sexualized or objectified, and/or lauded for their feminine attributes. These contradictions allow us to grapple with the complexities of understanding women and femininity in medieval literature, and understanding the separations (if any) between piety, gender and literature.

### ***Feminist and Queer Theory***

WGSS 340, Evren Savci

T 3:30pm-5:20pm WLH 002 Fall 2019

Historical survey of feminist and queer theory from the Enlightenment to the present, with readings from key British, French, and American works. Focus on the foundations and development of contemporary theory. Shared intellectual origins and concepts, as well as divergences and conflicts, among different ways of approaching gender and sexuality.

### ***The Theory and Practice of Resistance***

WGSS 347 / HUMS 287, Terence Renaud

T 9:25am-11:15am (Room TBA) Spring 2020

Exploration of the histories and theories of resistance in the modern world. How liberation movements, guerrillas, and oppressed groups appeal to resistance as an organizational strategy and as moral justification. Readings include Kant, Thoreau, Nietzsche, Luxemburg, Lenin, Gandhi, Fanon, Arendt, Marcuse, Foucault, A. Lorde, Said, and J. Butler. Themes include antifascism to terrorism; violence to nonviolence, the New Left to Black Lives Matter.

### ***Women, Gender, and Grassroots Politics in the United States after World War II***

WGSS 354 / HIST 191J, Jennifer Klein

W 3:30pm-5:20pm LC 105 Fall 2019

American politics and grassroots social movements from 1945 to the present explored through women's activism and through gender politics more broadly. Ideas about gender identities, gender roles, and family in the shaping of social movements; strategies used on the local, regional, national, and international levels. Connections between organizing and policy, public and private, state and family, and migration, immigration, and empire.

### ***Theory and Politics of Sexual Consent***

WGSS 372, Joseph Fischel

W 9:25am-11:15am (Room TBA) Spring 2020

Political, legal, and feminist theory and critiques of the concept of sexual consent. Topics such as sex work, nonnormative sex, and sex across age differences explored through film, autobiography, literature, queer commentary, and legal theory. U.S. and Connecticut legal cases regarding sexual violence and assault.

### ***Sex and Global Politics***

WGSS 378 / ANTH 381 / WGSS 625, Graeme Reid

HTBA (Room TBA) Spring 2020

Global perspectives on the sexual politics of gender identity, sexual orientation, and human rights. Examination of historical, cultural, and political aspects of sexual orientation and gender identity in the context of globalization.

### ***Gender, Sexuality, and Islam***

WGSS 387, Evren Savci

W 3:30pm-5:20pm (Room TBA) Spring 2020

The use of critical texts that span a wide range of disciplines to examine gender and sexuality in the context of predominantly Muslim countries and cultures, as well as the larger transnational discourses that shape the ways in which Islam is imagined in relationship to gender and sexuality. By putting gender and sexuality at the center of our analysis, we are able to tease out the complex relationships between religion, culture, nation-states, and racialization, and think about how particular constructions of gender and sexuality have been central to the production and reproduction of each of these social structures. A critical knowledge of Orientalism, colonialism, and global inequalities is crucial for a careful and nuanced understanding of the different roles gender and sexuality have played, and continue to play in representations of Islam, and Muslims. This also underlines the current place of Islam not only as a world religion, or a set of beliefs and practices, but also as a "signifier." Students develop a historical understanding of many contemporary discussions around Islam and what gets referred to as "Muslim cultures" and should be able to critically engage with and complicate the terms and issues such as "cultural difference," "women's and LGBT rights," and "modernity/civilization" that are widely and easily deployed in current political and moral discourses around the Middle East and Islam.

### ***Civil Rights and Women's Liberation***

WGSS 388 / AFAM 349, Lauren Meyer

T 1:30pm-3:20pm (Room TBA) Spring 2020

The dynamic relationship between the civil rights movement and the women's liberation movement from 1940 to the present. When and how the two movements overlapped, intersected, and diverged. The variety of ways in which African Americans and women campaigned for equal rights. Topics include World War II, freedom summer, black power, the Equal Rights Amendment, feminism, abortion, affirmative action, and gay rights.

### ***Trans Histories of North America***

WGSS 396, Susan Stryker

MW 1pm-2:15pm WLH 210 Fall 2019

Students trace histories of gender variance from the early colonial period through the early 21st century, primarily in the parts of the Americas that have become the United States, in relation to such topics as settler-colonialism, two-spirit survivance, indentured labor and slavery, environmental history, changing

definitions of citizenship in the early republic, sex/race segregation in the built environment, sexology/eugenics/scientific racism, theories of psycho-somatic plasticity, Post-WWII identity politics, and postmodern figurations of gendered embodiment.

### ***Junior Research Seminar***

WGSS 398, Andrew Dowe

W 1:30pm-3:20pm WTS A35 Fall 2019

An interdisciplinary approach to studying gender and sexuality. Exploration of a range of relevant theoretical frameworks and methodologies. Prepares students for the senior essay.

### ***Women and Literature in Traditional China***

WGSS 405 / EALL 211, Kang-i Sun Chang

TTh 1pm-2:15pm ELM143 106 Fall 2019

A study of major women writers in traditional China, as well as representations of women by male authors. The power of women's writing; women and material culture; women in exile; courtesans; Taoist and Buddhist nuns; widow poets; cross-dressing women; the female body and its metaphors; footbinding; notions of love and death; the aesthetics of illness; women and revolution; poetry clubs; the function of memory in women's literature; problems of gender and genre.

All readings in translation; no knowledge of Chinese required. Some Chinese texts provided for students who read Chinese

### ***Latinx Ethnography***

WGSS 408 / ER&M 409, Ana Ramos-Zayas

M 1:30pm-3:20pm BRW35 221 Fall 2019

Consideration of ethnography within the genealogy and intellectual traditions of Latinx Studies. Topics include: questions of knowledge production and epistemological traditions in Latin America and U.S. Latino communities; conceptions of migration, transnationalism, and space; perspectives on "(il)legality" and criminalization; labor, wealth, and class identities; contextual understandings of gender and sexuality; theorizations of affect and intimate lives; and the politics of race and inequality under white liberalism and conservatism in the United States.

### ***Asian American Women and Gender, 1830 to the Present***

WGSS 409 / AMST 410, Mary Lui

Th 1:30pm-3:20pm BASSLB L73 Fall 2019

Asian American women as key historical actors. Gender analysis is used to reexamine themes in Asian American history: immigration, labor, community, cultural representations, political organizing, sexuality, and marriage and family life.

### ***Interdisciplinary Approaches to African American Studies***

WGSS 410 / AFAM 410, Crystal Feimster

T 9:25am-11:15am WALL81 201 Spring 2020

An interdisciplinary, thematic approach to the study of race, nation, and ethnicity in the African diaspora. Topics include class, gender, color, and sexuality; the dynamics of reform, Pan-Africanism, neocolonialism, and contemporary black nationalism. Use of a broad range of methodologies.

### ***Gender and Science***

WGSS 419 / HSHM 433, Deborah Coen

Th 3:30pm-5:20pm (Room TBA) Spring 2020

Exploration of the dual potential of the sciences to reinforce received ideas about gender or to challenge existing sexual and racial hierarchies; the rise of the ideas and institutions of the modern sciences as they have reflected and shaped new notions of femininity and masculinity.

### ***Sex, Markets, and Power***

WGSS 429 / PLSC 427, Frances Rosenbluth

MW 11:35am-12:25pm SSS 114 Fall 2019

Consideration of how women's socioeconomic status and political power have varied across time and place. Three analytical lenses are used: biology, markets, and power.

### ***Intersectionality and Women's Health***

WGSS 431 / ANTH 451/ WGSS 651, Marcia Inhorn

W 3:30pm-5:20pm SA10 212 Spring 2020

The intersections of race, class, gender, and other axes of "difference" and their effects on women's health, primarily in the contemporary United States. Recent feminist approaches to intersectionality and multiplicity of oppressions theory. Ways in which anthropologists studying women's health issues have contributed to social and feminist theory at the intersections of race, class, and gender.

### ***Black Women Moving and the Ethnography of Embodiment***

WGSS 442 / AFAM 451, Aimee Cox

MW 10:30am-12:20pm (Room TBA) Spring 2020

In this course we explore the theory and methods employed by Black women ethnographers, artists, and activists invested in transforming the traditional norms of the academic disciplines and creative contexts in which they operate. These boundary erasing, rule breaking women challenge us to think expansively and act courageously in our efforts to not only dream a new world but bring that world into fruition. The life and work of anthropologist/dancer/choreographer/activist Katherine Dunham (1909–2006) provides the framework through which we think through the strategies contemporary scholar-artists employ in their social justice practices, while the concept of movement is our theoretical and methodological foundation for engaging with the work of historical and contemporary Black women change agents. We ask how movement functions in the work of Dunham

and these contemporary scholar-artists in terms of: the moving and/or dancing body; movement and migration across geographic territories and imagined space; and participation in social movements. Inspired by the techniques these women have developed for re-imagining the possibilities for moving as an act of social change, we experiment with creating our own embodied artistic practices and research methods. Students should anticipate a holistic experience that requires an openness to physical activity and choreography (accessible to all) as one of our primary tools for both analyzing the multi-media course texts, as well as constructing our own boundary crossing projects.

### ***Reproductive Health, Gender & Power in the U.S.***

WGSS 457 / HSHM 465, Ziv Eisenberg

W 3:30pm-5:20pm WLH 011 Fall 2019

This seminar examines women's and men's reproductive health in the United States from the 19th century to the present. How have gender norms and social power structures shaped medical knowledge, scientific investigation, political regulation, and private reproductive experiences? What do the lessons of the history of reproductive health tell us about contemporary policy, legal and economic debates? Topics include abortion, activism, childbirth, contraceptives, eugenics, feminism, fertility, medicalization, pregnancy, reproductive science and technology, sexual health, social justice, and sterilization.

### ***The Study of Privilege in the Americas***

WGSS 463 / AMST 462, Ana Ramos-Zayas

W 3:30pm-5:20pm YK212 004 Fall 2019

Examination of inequality, not only through experiences of the poor and marginal, but also through institutions, beliefs, social norms, and everyday practices of the privileged. Topics include: critical examination of key concepts like "studying up," "elite," and "privilege," as well as variations in forms of capital; institutional sites of privilege (elite prep schools, Wall Street); living spaces and social networks (gated communities, private clubs); privilege in intersectional contexts (privilege and race, class, and gender); and everyday practices of intimacy and affect that characterize, solidify, and promote privilege.

### ***Independent Directed Study***

WGSS 471, Andrew Dowe

HTBA (Room TBA) Fall 2019

For students who wish to explore an aspect of women's, gender, and sexuality studies not covered by existing courses. The course may be used for research or directed readings and should include one lengthy or several short essays. Students meet with their adviser regularly. To apply for admission, students present a prospectus to the director of undergraduate studies along with a letter of support from the adviser. The prospectus must include a description of the research area, a core bibliography, and the expected sequence and scope of written assignments.

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***The Senior Colloquium***

WGSS 490, Andrew Dowe

HTBA (Room TBA) Fall 2019

A research seminar taken during the senior year. Students with diverse research interests and experience discuss common problems and tactics in doing independent research.

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***The Senior Essay***

WGSS 491, Andrew Dowe

HTBA (Room TBA) Fall 2019

Independent research on, and writing of, the senior essay.

***The Senior Essay***

WGSS 491, Andrew Dowe

HTBA (Room TBA) Spring 2020

Independent research on, and writing of, the senior essay.

**Graduate Courses \*\*\*\*\***

***Sexuality, Gender, Health, and Human Rights***

WGSS 529 / GLBL 529, Alice Miller

Th 9:25am-11:15am W LH 003 Fall 2019

This course explores the application of human rights perspectives and practices to issues in regard to sexuality and health. Through reading, interactive discussion, paper presentation, and occasional outside speakers, students learn the tools and implications of applying rights and law to a range of sexuality and health-related topics. The overall goal is twofold: to engage students in the world of global sexual health and rights policy making as a field of social justice and public health action;

and to introduce them to conceptual tools that can inform advocacy and policy formation and evaluation. Class participation, short reaction papers, and a final paper are required.

### ***LGBTQ Population Health***

WGSS 570 / SBS 570, John Pachankis

Th 1pm-2:50pm LEPH 101 Spring 2020

Sexual and gender minority individuals (e.g., those who identify as LGBTQ) represent a key health disparity population in the United States and worldwide, but high-quality evidence of this problem has historically been slow to accumulate. This course engages students in critically examining today's rapidly expanding empirical knowledge regarding sexual and gender minority health by considering challenges to, and opportunities for, conducting this research with methodological rigor. Students consider social and ecological influences on sexual and gender minority health, including migration, community, and neighborhood influences. Social institutions, including religion, school, family, and close relationships, are examined as sources of both stress and support. Given the relevance of individual and collective identity and stress as mechanisms through which stigma impacts sexual and gender minority health, the empirical platform of the course is complemented by intersectionality theory, critical postmodern work on identity fluidity and multiplicity across the life course, and minority stress conceptualizations of health. Students apply lessons learned in the course to evaluating and developing policy and health care interventions for this increasingly visible segment of the global population.

### ***Sex and Global Politics***

WGSS 625 / ANTH 381 / WGSS 378, Graeme Reid

HTBA (Room TBA) Spring 2020

Global perspectives on the sexual politics of gender identity, sexual orientation, and human rights. Examination of historical, cultural, and political aspects of sexual orientation and gender identity in the context of globalization.

### ***Affect and Materiality***

WGSS 633 / AMST 747, Kathryn Dudley

T 1:30pm-3:20pm SA10 105 Spring 2020

Recent scholarship in the fields of affect studies and the new materialisms raises important questions about the ethnographic encounter and the kind of knowledge it produces. Refusing to grant ontological status to classic oppositions between nature/culture, self/other, subject/object, and human/nonhuman, this work encourages anthropologically inclined ethnographers to rethink longstanding assumptions about the composition of the "social" and the "political" in an anthropocentric world that ignores the vulnerabilities and agential capacities of global ecosystems at its peril. Reading across ossifying disciplinary divides, this seminar examines the intellectual projects of writers such as Jane Bennett, Bruno Latour, Lauren Berlant, and Kathleen Stewart, among others. Our objective is to theorize the intersection between public and private feelings and human and

nonhuman materiality in ways that bring the political and aesthetic implications of ethnographic research and writing to the fore.

### ***Intersectionality and Women's Health***

WGSS 651 / ANTH 451/ WGSS 431, Marcia Inhorn

W 3:30pm-5:20pm SA10 212 Spring 2020

The intersections of race, class, gender, and other axes of “difference” and their effects on women’s health, primarily in the contemporary United States. Recent feminist approaches to intersectionality and multiplicity of oppressions theory. Ways in which anthropologists studying women’s health issues have contributed to social and feminist theory at the intersections of race, class, and gender.

### ***Colonial Domesticity and Reproductive Relations***

WGSS 697 / AMST 687, Lisa Lowe

W 3:30pm-5:20pm WLH 013 Fall 2019

This interdisciplinary seminar, in collaboration with the Center for Race, Indigeneity, and Transnational Migration (RITM), is open to graduate students and pre- and postdoctoral fellows. In it, we examine the central importance of family, kinship, and domestic and reproductive labor to the cultural and social reproduction of racial colonialisms. Settler colonialism, colonial slavery, overseas empire, and globalization depend not only on the brute force of war, captivity, and occupation; they are also sustained and contested through culture, language, forms of family and household, education, and the social reproduction of race, gender, intimacy, and filiation. We trace a genealogy that considers the long history of colonial impositions of domesticity and family separations: from the violation and separation of enslaved women from their children, to compulsory boarding schools for Native Americans, racialized gendered divisions of care labor and reproductive surrogacy, transnational adoption, and migrant detention. This genealogy simultaneously includes less acknowledged yet longstanding alternative forms of kinship and relation, amalgams of domestic sociality, and nonbiological generation and affiliation. Readings include historical and anthropological studies of household and reproduction under various colonialisms (Ann Laura Stoler, Alys Weinbaum, Jennifer Morgan, Dorothy Roberts, Brenda Child, Kendra Field, Cathleen Cahill, Lisa Brooks, Amy Kaplan, Arissa Oh, Kalindi Vora, Rachel Buff), debates on social reproduction (Tithi Bhattacharya, Silvia Federici, Maria Mies, Ruha Benjamin, Laura Briggs, Alyosha Goldstein, Chandan Reddy, Evelyn Nakano Glenn, Mary Romero), materials on alternative kinship and social relations (Saidiya Hartman, Kyla Schuller, Elizabeth Freeman, Fred Moten), and literary works (Mary Prince, Toni Morrison, Louise Erdrich, Patricia Powell, Patricia Park, Octavia Butler).

### ***Health Politics, Body Politics***

WGSS 730 / HSHM 736, Naomi Rogers

W 3:30pm-5:20pm (Room TBA) Spring 2020

A reading seminar on struggles to control, pathologize, and normalize human bodies, with a particular focus on science, medicine, and the state, both in North America and in a broader global health context. Topics include disease, race, and



politics; repression and regulation of birth control; the politics of adoption; domestic and global population control; feminist health movements; and the pathologizing and identity politics of disabled people.

### ***Personhood in the Americas***

WGSS 764 / AMST 765, Ana Ramos-Zayas

W 3:30pm-5:20pm (Room TBA) **Spring 2020**

Who and what counts as a person? How do we know? When and how is personhood attributed? To what extent does place, and the hemispheric formation that is the Americas, shape personhood? Can personhood be “lost”? Is personhood only for the living, or is it a question for the dead too? What forms of self-fashioning does personhood require, and how have these changed across space and time? How do individuals construct selves and public personas according to socially accepted standards? This course is designed to offer a broad and historically grounded understanding of key interdisciplinary debates and themes associated with understandings of personhood, its social implications, and the relationship between the embodied self and collective identities. Topics include the role of the nation state, the law, and science in defining persons; rites of passage in the life cycle of persons, particularly at the beginning and end of life; the legibility and performance of personhood and self through language, cultivation, and person-person or person-nonperson relationships; “degrees” of personhood in relation to gender, race, class, and illness; incarceration and confinement and their relation to a “loss” of personhood; and transnational, institutional, and psychoanalytic productions of the person. Approaching the Americas from a hemispheric perspective, the course also aims to help students identify the methodological, ethical, and theoretical questions that come with using concepts such as person, individual, self, and subject and to assess the methodological and analytical advantages and/or disadvantages of one term over the other for specific research projects in specific fieldwork sites. Whom we consider a person, whom we label less than fully endowed, and the roles history, culture, and context play in the process are questions that inform some of the most urgent legal and political issues of our time. We look at texts in philosophy, anthropology, history, psychology, law, and popular culture.

### ***Research Topics in Gender and Psychology***

WGSS 767 / PSYC 777, Marianne LaFrance

HTBA (Room TBA) **Fall 2019**

The “Gender Lab” meets weekly to consider research being done in the Psychology department that bears on some gender-related issue.

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### ***Sex and Citizenship***

WGSS 850 / ENGL 982, Jill Richards

M 1:30pm-3:20pm LC 319 Fall 2019

A survey of the ways that gender/sexuality is organized through and against the nation-state, with particular attention to citizenship, rights discourses, and global migration. The course looks to establish a foundational understanding of the conjunctures between liberal governance and the regulation of reproductive, sexual, and family life. At the same time, our wider conceptual arc takes up more recent critical debates about the entanglement of sexual intimacy, race, and national belonging during the territorial expansion of empire in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In this reconsideration of the geographies of sexual citizenship, we focus on British, Commonwealth, and postcolonial case studies in the Caribbean, Africa, Middle East, Indian Ocean, and South Pacific. Texts include selections from legal history, travel narratives, life-writing, literature, the history of sexuality, sociology, anthropology, critical race theory, queer theory, and indigenous studies. Works by Mary Prince, Evelyn Nakano Glenn, Saidiya Hartman, Mary Seacole, Ann Laura Stoler, Eve Sedgwick, Olive Schreiner, Jasbir Puar, Talal Asad, T.E. Lawrence, Audra Simpson, Glen Sean Coulthard, Sylvia Townsend Warner, Joanne Meyerowitz, Virginia Woolf, Karl Marx, Silvia Federici, Jean Rhys, Mahmood Mamdani, Lauren Berlant, Zoë Wicomb, Michel Foucault, Wendy Brown, Mohsin Hamid, Wilde v. Queensberry (1895), Maud Allan v. Pemberton Billing (1918).

### ***WGSS Certificate Workshop***

WGSS 900, Joseph Fischel

M 5:30pm-7pm (Room TBA) Fall 2019

Built around the WGSS graduate Colloquium and Working Group series, with the addition of several sessions on topics of interdisciplinary methodology, theory, and professionalization. Offered annually in either the fall or spring. Enrollment in one term of WGSS 900 is required of all students for completion of the certificate in WGSS. Graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory.

Consult the Yale online course information website ([courses.yale.edu/](https://courses.yale.edu/)) for classroom locations and updated meeting times.  
*All information is subject to change.*